

To: Werner, Lora[Werner.Lora@epa.gov]
From: Ham, Greg
Sent: Thur 6/11/2015 6:37:51 PM
Subject: Fwd: Fact Sheet

Draft fact sheet FYI, not for release.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Moore, Brian" <briamoore@pa.gov>
Date: June 11, 2015 at 11:56:42 AM EDT
To: "Repetz, John" <JREPETZ@pa.gov>, "Conrad, Robert" <roconrad@pa.gov>, "Langer, Lynn" <llanger@pa.gov>, "Kunkel, Summer" <sukunkel@pa.gov>
Cc: "Nesmith, Rodney" <nesmith@pa.gov>, "Landis, Victor" <vlandis@pa.gov>, Greg Ham <Ham.Greg@epamail.epa.gov>, "Leib, Kerry" <kleib@pa.gov>
Subject: RE: Fact Sheet

I did make the highlighted change

From: Moore, Brian
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2015 11:54 AM
To: Repetz, John; Moore, Brian; Conrad, Robert; Langer, Lynn
Cc: Nesmith, Rodney; Landis, Victor; Greg Ham; Leib, Kerry
Subject: Fact Sheet

All,

Please take a look at the information below and update it as you see fit. We need to get a good contact number to give out. If possible a dedicated line where we can collect messages would be best or we can use the main line, collect the information and then return calls. If someone wants something more specific please let me know. I do anticipate getting Greg Ham w/ the EPA more involved on the private well front.

Brian

On Monday June 8th 2015 there was a fire at Miller Chemical and Fertilizer. Miller Chemical and Fertilizer is a manufacturer of water soluble fertilizers used for commercial agricultural crops as well a supplier of soil amendments. Miller Chemical and Fertilizer does not manufacture herbicide or pesticide products. No pesticide or herbicide compounds have been detected by the Department in the runoff from the fire. Due to the large amount of runoff from the firefighting efforts contaminated runoff has entered Slegel's Run and the Conewago Creek. The runoff is colored red or purple and is very visible in the waterways.

What is to be expected:

- 1) Discoloration and foaming is expected in Slegel's Run and the Conewago Creek, the discoloration may vary from red to purple or brown depending on the depth of the water and the the amount of sediment. Foaming should be expected near low head dams and other areas of disturbance such as rocks and rapids.
- 2) The runoff contains high concentrations of nutrients and organic matter from the fertilizer products stored and manufactured at the facility. Due to the high concentration of organic carbon the Department is seeing low levels of dissolved oxygen in some areas of Slegel Run and the Conewago. Additionally, with the presence of ammonia compounds in the water we are seeing and expect to see distressed aquatic life including fish kills.
- 3) At this time the impacts to private wells are expected to be minimal if the wells are properly constructed and cased. Owners of private wells should monitor their water for discoloration and contact the Department if they see visible discoloration. If an owner of a private well wishes to take further action they can work with a private lab to monitor for Nitrate, Nitrite and Total Organic Carbon (TOC). Additional information regarding private wells can be obtained on the Departments Website at:
http://www.depweb.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/private_water_wells
- 4) The discoloration and foam is expected to continue until the material can be stopped from entering Slegel's Run. Due to the large volume of runoff involved this may take several days to complete.
- 5) While the waterways are discolored citizens should refrain from recreating or fishing.

Brian L. Moore | Manager

Emergency Response Program

Department of Environmental Protection

909 Elmerton Avenue | Harrisburg, PA 17110

Phone: 717.705.4741 | Fax: 717.705.4890

www.depweb.state.pa.us

The 24-hour toll free Emergency Response number for the SCRO is: 866-825-0208